

GEN. GRANT IS STRICKEN LIKE HIS FATHER

Jersey Powder Mill Blows Up, All New York Quakes

WEATHER—Rain To-night and Tuesday.

NIGHT
EDITION.

The



World.

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EDITION.

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GREATER NEW YORK SHAKEN BY EXPLOSION OF A TON OF POWDER IN JERSEY MILL

Two Men Blown to Death at
du Pont Plant in Wayne,
Passaic County.

BUILDINGS DISLODGED.

Shock Like Earthquake Breaks
Windows in Villages for
Miles Around.

Four of the fourteen buildings of the Du Pont black powder mills at Wayne, N. J., about nine miles west of Paterson, blew up shortly after 8 o'clock to-day with a jar that was felt within a radius of fifty miles. Charles Stoltz, superintendent of the plant, and Charles Rysdick, an employee, were killed, and William Spornow, the powder boss, was probably mortally injured. Another man is unaccounted for, but it has not been determined that he is dead.

Rysdick, who was in the powder press building, the first to go up, was blown to atoms. He was seen in the doorway a moment before the explosion, but not a shred of his body has been discovered. A fragment of his jumper was found half a mile from the plant. It is believed at least a ton of giant powder exploded, and there is not a building in Wayne or the nearby town of Mountain View that is not badly damaged. Windows were blown out of every structure in these two villages and scores of buildings were shifted on their foundations or had their walls cracked and ceilings shaken down.

Supt. Stoltz was making a round of inspection with Powder Boss Spornow when the explosion occurred. He was blown high in the air and was dead when his body struck the ground amid a heap of debris. Both Spornow's legs and two of his ribs were broken. Another man, whose name has not been learned, suffered a broken leg and thigh.

FOUR EXPLOSIONS IN QUICK SUCCESSION.

The four buildings destroyed were built of shecton and timber. They were a corn mill, a wheel mill, a finishing mill and a powder press. Large quantities of explosives were in all four buildings. Scarcely a second intervened between the four explosions.

The big jar came just as a train of the Greenwood Lake division of the Erie Railroad was discharging passengers at the Wayne depot, half a mile from the powder works. All the windows on the side of the cars toward the powder plant were smashed and the passengers were thrown from the steps of the cars, but none was hurt.

Reports from Wayne state there was not a man, woman or child standing

(Continued on Second Page.)

VICTORY IS WON, SAYS LEADER OF 400,000 MINERS

"All Over but Signing of New
Wage Agreement" White's
Firm Declaration.

"A STRIKELESS TRIUMPH"
Idle Army of Men Confident
of Getting Demands Cele-
brate "Eight-Hour Day."

INDIANAPOLIS, April 1.—"It's all over but signing the new wage agreement. As a matter of course the increase in wages won by the soft coal miners will be followed by the granting of an increase to the anthracite miners without a struggle."

This was the statement of John P. White, President of the United Mine Workers of America, when he returned to his office to-day after the conference with the mine workers at Cleveland.

That the soft coal miners will vote almost unanimously in favor of the new wage proposition on April 10 was Mr. White's prediction.

STRIKELESS TRIUMPH FOR THE MINERS.

"Naturally we are feeling pretty good over the increase in wages for a term of two years obtained by arbitration for the bituminous miners," he continued, "and we will go into the conference with the anthracite operators at Philadelphia with absolute confidence that they will not hold out against higher wages for their men."

Mr. White pointed out that the soft coal miners have now reached "a dollar a ton" after years of effort. The proposed new wage agreement provides for an increase of five cents a ton for screened coal, of three cents for unscreened coal and of 5.38 per cent. for labor and "dead work" about the mines.

Conditions and wages differ slightly in the various districts, but the "basing point" for the contracts in all will be \$1 a ton.

PHILADELPHIA, April 1.—Four hundred thousand soft coal miners quit work to-day in the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania and in the "central competitive field" of the bituminous portion of the industry. Officially the movement is a "suspension" of work, and whether it is to develop into a widespread strike depends upon the outcome of the voting in the union ranks and of conferences between the men and the employers within the next ten days.

Anthracite men are more apprehensive than their bituminous brethren as to the ultimate outcome. This condition is predicated on the fact that there is no definite agreement immediately in sight for the coal men, whereas the bituminous conference at Cleveland adjourned after the men's representatives had abandoned practically all their demands except for increased wages and on this point modified their terms considerably. 300,000 MORE MEN AFFECTED BY
MINE TIE-UP.

The union men are to take a referendum ballot at once as to whether the modified terms for a new wage agreement are to be accepted, and there is a general feeling that the result of the ballot will be a return to work.

Upon the outcome of the voting in the "central competitive field"—comprising Pennsylvania, Indiana and Illinois—will depend also the basis for new wage scales in other sections of the country where the new wage agreements do not expire until May 1, or later. Southern and Southwestern mines and the comparatively few in the Rocky Mountain States are affected by this status of affairs.

KILLS IN DISPUTE OVER APRIL FOOL, THEN TRIES SUICIDE.

Sound Beach, Conn., Clerk
Hits Employer's Brother on
Head With Hammer.

CUTS THROAT IN CELL.

Overcome by Tragic Result of
"Fun" in Sending Stewart
on Fruitless Errand.

An April Fool joke that already has cost one life, may end with the death of another man. James J. Stewart, a clerk in his brother's grocery store in Sound Beach, Conn., is dead, his skull crushed with a hammer. Roland Hedges, his former friend and a fellow clerk, is in a critical condition in the jail at Greenwich, Conn., his throat jagged with the thin glass of an electric light bulb, with which he tried to commit suicide.

Overcome with remorse when he learned that his victim was dead, Hedges had almost to be carried into a cell. Then, as soon as his father had locked the door and turned away, Hedges sawed away at his own throat with a bit of glass. His efforts at self-destruction may prove successful.

The killing of Stewart occurred in the store of his elder brother, Robert Stewart, a groceryman of Sound Beach.

Early to-day, while Stewart and Hedges were getting out their delivery wagons, preparing to their morning trips, Hedges handed Stewart a wrench and told him his brother Robert wanted it in a hurry. Stewart took the wrench and ran half a block to the store, to find the door locked and no one in the building.

STEWART COULDN'T SEE THE JOKE ON HIM.

Out of breath and angry, he returned to the barn and asked Hedges what he meant by sending him on the errand. Hedges laughed boisterously. The April Fool joke he had played on his employer's brother appeared irresistibly funny to him. Stewart, unable to "take a joke," struck Hedges, according to witnesses.

The men were separated and went to the store, where Hedges is said to have renewed the quarrel, attacking Stewart several times. Each time he was restrained by bystanders. In one of the attacks he is said to have seized a heavy shovel and tried to brain Stewart. The men were alone in the store at 7:30 o'clock, but several customers who had been in and out declare Hedges was making angry threats against Stewart.

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MRS. NICODEMUS TELLS STORY OF KILLING HUSBAND

Goes on Witness Stand at Her
Trial for Murder Before
Judge Rosalsky.

SWears HE WAS CRUEL.

Forced Her to Go Out and
Work After He Lost
His Job.

Mrs. Genevieve Nicodemus, the willowy, blue-eyed girl on trial charged with the murder of her husband, Frank J. Nicodemus, last October, was on the witness stand to-day in her own defense before Judge Rosalsky and a jury in General Sessions. She trembled violently as her counsel, Abraham Levy and Murray Simon, led her to the witness chair. A court officer supported her with an arm about her waist while she was sworn.

The girl sat with her hands clasped in her lap and her eyes cast down. Her voice was barely audible in answering questions. Stenographer Frank Beard was obliged to repeat her replies for the benefit of the jury, which could not make out her low, almost husky murmurs. Now and then she pulled a black silk handkerchief over her shoulders, clearing around the open-work of her dress at the throat.

THE GIRL SAT WITH HER HANDS CLASPED IN HER LAP AND HER EYES CAST DOWN. HER VOICE WAS BARELY AUDIBLE IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS.

"I first met Frank Nicodemus when I was out walking with some children whose mother was ill," she said. "Jack Lloyd brought him up to me on the street and introduced him. He asked me to go out with him and I said my folks wouldn't allow my sisters and myself to go out with any one they didn't know, but he might come to the house and ask my father."

"Did he make love to you?" asked Mr. Levy. The girl's bosom fluttered. Her eyes filled. The lids closed and she buried her beautiful head.

"He said he loved me very much," she answered. "I thought he loved me. I knew he did—that."

The murmured monotone broke into sobs again. Looking down and fingering her big wedding ring, the girl told of Frank Nicodemus's proposal of marriage. "I told him," said the defendant, "that I must ask my father. 'Gee,' he said, 'I'm ashamed. You ask him.' So I did."

The marriage, which took place in Hoboken, was witnessed by her mother and brother.

REFUSED TO TAKE A TRIP WITH
HIM BEFORE MARRIAGE.

She said Nicodemus asked her, before their marriage, to make a trip to his mother's home in Boston.

"But I said no," testified the girl. "That I wouldn't even think of asking my mother such a thing, she would be angry."

The intimate heart-rending details of her life at home with Nicodemus she went with the utmost particularity. She told of his admitting to her that he was out of work, and telling her that she must go to work, as she did.

Nicodemus, learning she was likely to become a mother, treated her brutally so that she became very ill. Her mother left their home and went to the home of another daughter, Mrs. Patterson, and left word that she would not return to her own house so long as Frank Nicodemus was there.

Gen. Frederick Dent Grant Forced to Take a Long Leave



TEAR DOWN "L" ON CHURCH STREET, DEMAND IN SUIT

Havemeyer Building Owners
Say Construction Itself
Violated Law.

The Sixth avenue "L" is called "a continuing nuisance" in a suit filed in the Supreme Court to-day by the Havemeyer Real Estate Company, owner of the Havemeyer Building on Church street, between Dey and Cortlandt streets. The company asks that the Interborough Rapid Transit Company be enjoined from running trains and required to tear down its structure in front of the Havemeyer Building.

The complaint declares that the elevated company's structure deprives the tenants of the Havemeyer Building of the light and air which are their lawful right and that the tenants are subjected to discomfort and annoyance by noise of the trains. Another complaint is that grates, dust, oil and snow from the elevated structure have fallen or been thrown on the Havemeyer premises.

A station in front of the Havemeyer building, it is charged, has become a safe. Another allegation is that the combined causes have prevented the increase in rent income that would naturally have come to the building owners through the general rise in realty values in that vicinity.

It is set up that the original construction of the elevated was contrary to law, as the owners of the Havemeyer land were not compensated for damages at that time. It is also complained that the station was enlarged in 1904 without authority of law.

ARMED BY AEROPLANES
FOR REBELS IN MEXICO.

Two Flying Craft Seized by American Customs Men Believed Intended for Smuggling.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—That an attempt will be made to smuggle arms and munitions of war across the Texas border in aeroplanes, giving the customs secret service a new problem to deal with, was indicated in dispatches received by the War Department to-day. Col. Steever at El Paso reported to Gen. Wood to-day that two French aeroplanes of the latest and most expensive type have been held up by the American customs authorities. It was believed that the aeroplanes were destined for the rebel army in Mexico, and the shipment was held up under authority of the President's neutrality proclamation.

Simultaneously came reports from American officers in Texas asserting definite knowledge that Orozco, although heavily backed with money, is almost out of ammunition due to the extensive fighting of the past ten days near Torreon. To-day American authorities controlling the line began to catch smugglers carrying the munitions needed ammunition. Only small lots were discovered. War Department officials think that the two aeroplanes were to be used for gun and ammunition running, though it is possible Orozco intends to use them in the siege of Torreon to force the surrender of Federal Gens. Aubert and Heredia by dropping bombs.

ILLNESS LIKE FATHER'S FORCES GEN. GRANT TO TAKE A LONG LEAVE

Commander of Department of the
East Suddenly Abandons Work
and Goes Away Afflicted
With Disease of Throat.

DEPARTURE KEPT SECRET AT GOVERNORS ISLAND

Joined Father in Civil War Cam-
paign When Thirteen and Was
Wounded in Battle.

Though all of the officers at the headquarters of the Department of the East on Governors Island are maintaining discreet silence it became known to-day that Major-Gen. Frederick Dent Grant, the commander of the department, had quietly left the island on a four month's sick leave. An affliction of the throat, said to be similar to that which caused the lingering illness and final death of his father, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, is the cause for Gen. Grant's sudden departure from his duties.

It was learned from good authority to-day that Gen. Grant had been suffering from the malady for many months and that it failed to yield to treatment. A short time ago his physician gave imperative orders that he should seek rest and absolute quiet.

It can be said with conservation that Gen. Grant is a very sick man and that his illness has been of a nature imperative enough to force complete cessation of work on his part.

Gen. Grant left away and where he is at present are matters which the officers at Governors Island are keeping secret. They would only admit to-day that Gen. Grant had gone away on leave.

"It is no matter of any general interest," said Lieut. Howard, Gen. Grant's aide-de-camp. "He has simply gone away to visit with members of his family. I do not believe that Gen. Grant would care to have any publicity given to this fact."

Adit-Gen. Andrews said when asked about Gen. Grant's absence: "Two months ago when Gen. Grant returned from an inspection tour of the Southern posts he was very tired as the trip had been a hard one. Traveling through the South means much night travel and poor train connections. On his return he thought he would have a rest. I believe he went to the South. Mrs. Potter Palmer, his sister-in-law, has a cottage near Tampa, Fla. We have heard occasionally from him since he went away, but indirectly. All the reports we had said that he was enjoying his rest. His whereabouts have not been made public for the reason that he would be overburdened with mail. He has a tremendous correspondence outside of army matters—from friends of his father, historians and Grand Army men."

"Do you think Gen. Grant will be back in a month?" was asked. "I can say nothing definite about that," said Col. Andrews.

Major Truby, the surgeon of the post, said that he had not treated Gen. Grant for any illness. So far as he knew there was nothing to show that the General was on sick leave.

Capt. Fenton of Gen. Grant's staff said that the General was on a leave of three months.

LED LIFE OF SOLDIER SINCE
THIRTEENTH YEAR.

Gen. Grant has led the life of a soldier since his thirteenth year when he was with his father's command before Vicksburg and was wounded by a Confederate bullet during one of the battles before the Southern stronghold. Since his graduation from West Point in 1853 he has been a regular officer of the army and has risen through the successive stages of promotion to his present rank.

Frederick Dent Grant was born in St. Louis on May 26, 1822. The first two years of his life were spent at army barracks in Detroit and New York. He attended public school at Galena, Ill. from 1830 until the age

April Fool's Day

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